



Natural Resource Committee, August 2019

Water & Natural Resource Program Overview and Update

Sue Blake,
Water Resource Educator,
WSU Extension, Washington Sea Grant

Program Development

Strategic Plans/Guidance/Teams

- WSU Extension
- Washington Sea Grant
- Whatcom County

On-Going Assessments

- Advisory Committees
- Evaluations
- Surveys
- Focus Groups



Multiple Partnerships

- What to Do
- Impacts:
Knowledge/Behavior
- What to Change

Engage 1000's of people each year

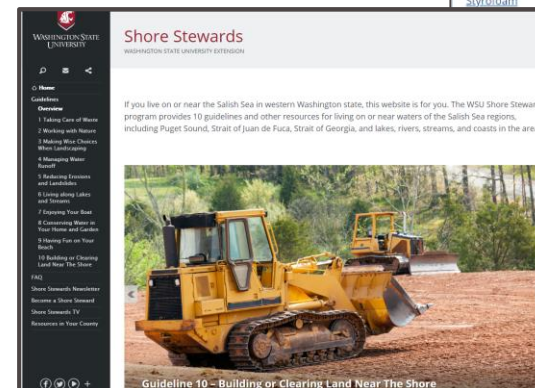
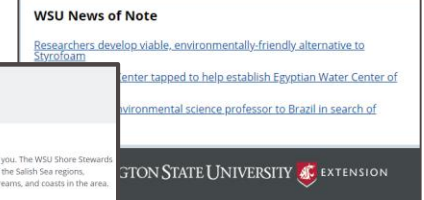
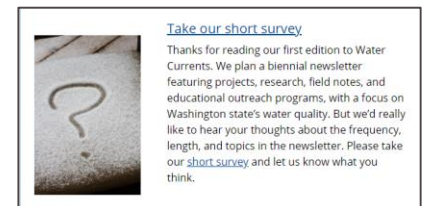
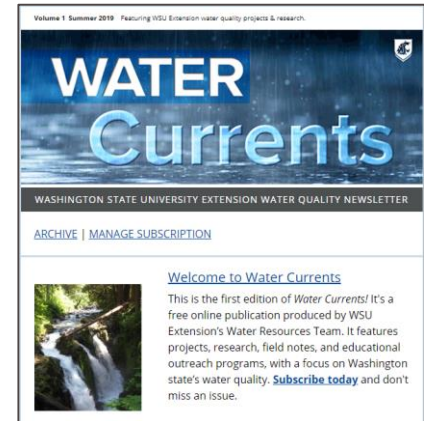
Stormwater – Residential LID

- Goal: Reduce stormwater impacts associated with residential landscaping practices.
- Major Partners: Whatcom County, City of Bellingham
- Activities: Classes, workshops, tours, interactive displays, website, written materials
- Impacts: Documented knowledge and on-the-ground changes



Residential LID

- Website enhancement
- New portable comprehensive diorama
- Shore Stewards
- Lake Whatcom Residential Guide
- New WSU Newsletter



Residential LID

- Master Gardener training
- Workshops
- Events - NW Washington Fair



Rain Gardens for Residential Places

Sponsored by the Master Gardener Foundation of Whatcom County



Rain Gardens: functional landscape features that benefit your community (and you!).

- beautify your landscape while creating habitat for birds and pollinators
- protect local waterways from pollution and reduce spot treatments
- learn how to design and build the right rain garden for your site

July 11, Thursday, Noon — 1:30
Bellingham downtown Ford Coop Healthy Connections Building
Classroom (next to bakery) Suite 103, 100 East Holly St.

Presenter: Ed MacIver, City of Bellingham Public Works — Natural Resources.

Bellingham has spent the last decade accounting for and managing residential and neighborhood scale storm water systems upgrades for the City of Bellingham. He has facilitated this design and construction of more than 100 pollution-reduction projects on private and public properties, totaling acres of new gardens and over 10 acres of restoration using native plants.



Education/Outreach WWIN

“WWIN is a diverse network of businesses, citizens, agencies, non-profits, and educational institutions who are interested and or in involved in fresh and marine water resources issues. We provide technically sound information to the community to support informed engagement.”

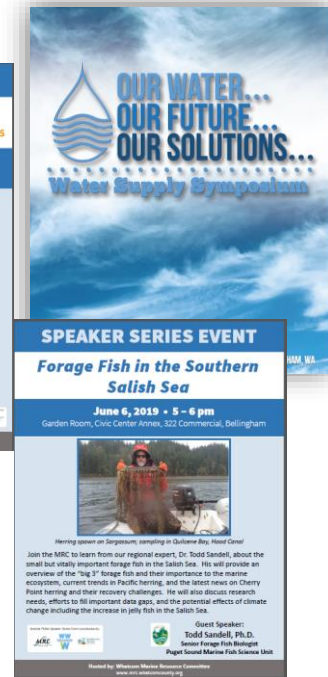
□ Speakers Series

Save the Date

“Shared Waters, Challenges, & Solutions”

September 19, 2019, 6:00 – 8:30 pm

Bellingham Technical College



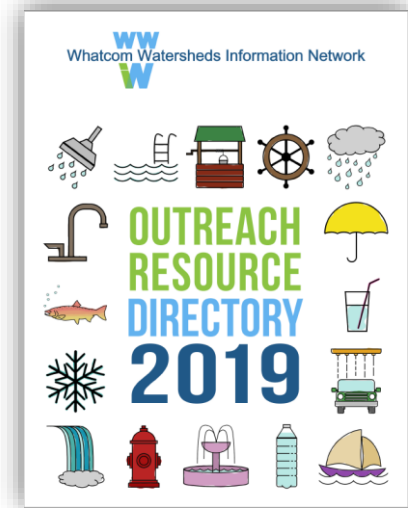
Education/Outreach WWIN

- Whatcom Water Week
 - E.g. Photo contest/calendar, Bellingham Seafeast



Education/Outreach WWIN

- Resource Directory
- Trainings
- On-going email membership updates
- Website Update



Whatcom Watersheds Information Network 

Free Training!
Improve Your Meeting Skills

November 27, 2018
8:30am-5:00pm, Ferndale Location
Space is limited - Register by November 1

WWIN is pleased to host this facilitation basics training by NOAA Office for Coastal Management with training provided by Ann Weaver, Certified Professional Facilitator. Topics that will be covered include:

- Beginning facilitation skills
- Developing meeting objectives
- Developing a process agenda
- Incorporating tools to meet your meeting objectives
- Incorporating unique perspectives

Space is limited - Register by November 1.


Refreshments and lunch provided. [More Information and To Register Click Here.](#)

Education/Outreach Other

- WSU Statewide Master Naturalist Program
 - 7 modules
 - Pilot coming soon
- Youth Education: 5th and 6th Grade Forest Tour
- Washington Sea Grant Newsletter



Watershed Science and Management



Topics Covered:

- Module Overview and Introduction
- Lesson 1: Introduction to Watersheds
- Lesson 2: How We Use Our Water Resources
- Lesson 3: Human Threats and Impacts on Watersheds and Water Resources
- Lesson 4: Water Quality and Quantity Regulations to Know
- Lesson 5: Watershed Management Principles and Case Studies
- Lesson 6: What You Can Do

Learning Objectives

- Describe what a watershed is, how water moves throughout it, and water properties integral to water quality.
- Identify water resources in watersheds and how they are used.
- Understand the legal framework essential to understanding water quality and quantity supply.
- Identify major human threats and impacts on water resources.
- Understand the role of watershed management in addressing threats and examples of watershed plans.
- Understand individual actions that can be taken to protect watersheds.

By
Susan Blake
Water Resource Faculty
WSU Extension Watershed County, Washington Sea Grant

SEA STAR

WASHINGTON SEA GRANT | WASHINGTON CONFERENCE | OCEAN GRANT | WSD FIELD NOTES | BOAT SALES DATA

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UNDER HIGH WATER

Washington Sea Grant helps citizens and coastal planners understand what sea-level-rise means for their communities

As part of the Washington Coastal Resilience Project (WCRP)—a three-year effort funded by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in 2016—Washington Sea Grant and the University of Washington Coastal Impact Group led an effort to provide the most detailed picture yet of what sea-level rise could mean for Washington State. Released last summer, the report includes projections for 17 coastal sites from now through 2100. The report provides estimates of the possible range of future water levels for each site, with the goal of helping planners and decision makers weigh the risks of sea-level rise under different climate scenarios.

If we manage to limit future greenhouse gas emissions, the report best estimate for sea level rise by 2100 is about 1.5 feet. However, due to uncertainty about the various processes that contribute to sea level change, even under this optimistic emissions scenario sea could rise

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Education/Outreach – Agriculture

- Washington Small Fruit Conference
 - ▣ Cover Variety of Topics:
 - Water Use in Agriculture
 - Integrated Pest Management
 - Sustainable Soil Management
- Whatcom AgMonthly
- Agricultural Water Talks
 - ▣ Agriculture Water Use
 - ▣ Irrigation Technology
 - ▣ Water Use Efficiency



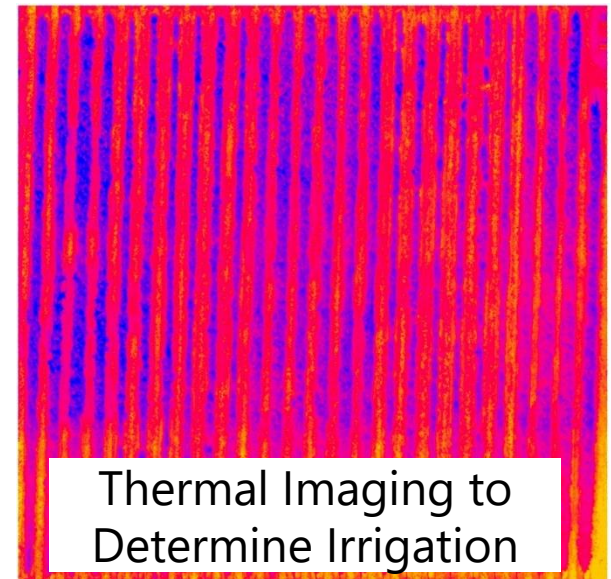
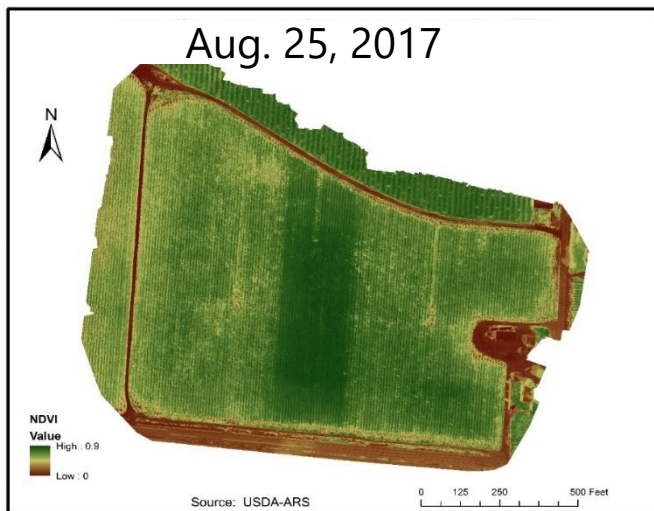
Program Highlights -On-Farm Research

□ Agriculture

- Seed potato sustainable management practices – reduced insecticide use
- Win-win? – Use of dairy fertilizer for small fruit production
- Improved irrigation practices for small fruit

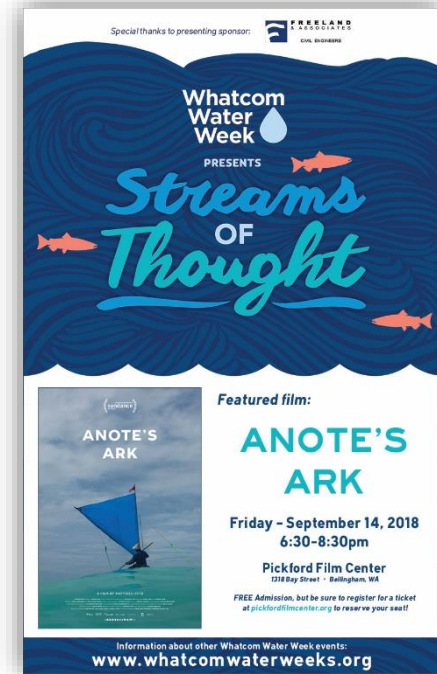
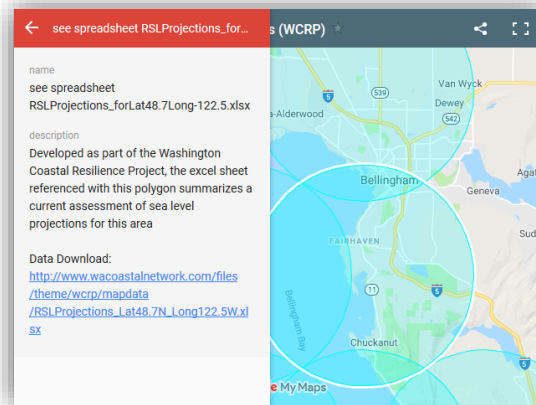
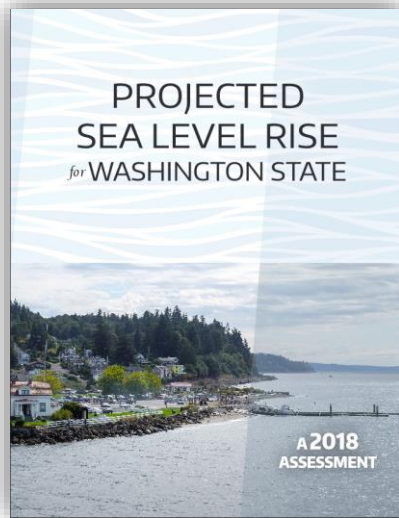
- *Multi-year Projects (2014/2016 – 2019)*
- *Results being analyzed*
- *Peer-reviewed papers*
- *Education and outreach*

Program Highlights – On-Farm Research



Program Highlights – WSG Research

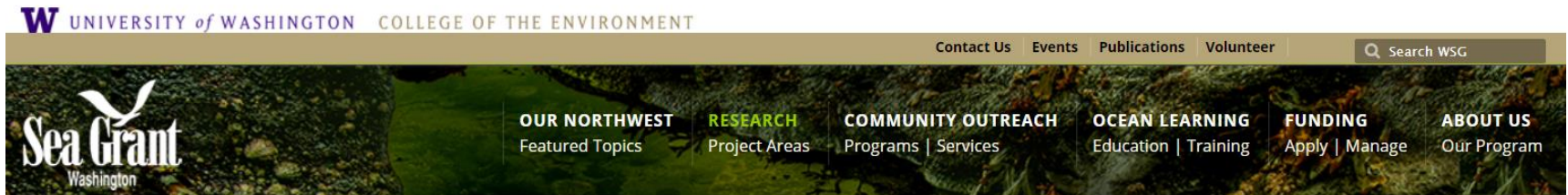
- Regional grant to enhance coastal community resilience



- Green Crab Citizen Science Program – new sightings Chuckanut Bay and Squalicum



Program Highlights – WSG Research



Research

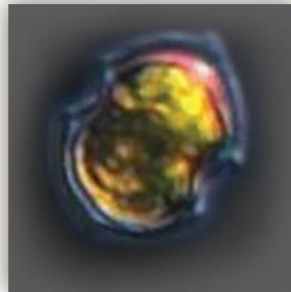
Washington Sea Grant (WSG) is a catalyst for innovative marine research and education opportunities. Research is the cornerstone of WSG's mission to help people better understand and address the challenges facing our ocean and coasts.

As part of a national partnership funded and coordinated by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), WSG sponsors research that combines scientific excellence with a focus on solving problems faced by ocean users and managers.

WSG projects range from exploring the impacts of ocean acidification and harmful algal blooms to improving management of the nation's largest fisheries.



Coastal and Marine Communities



Ecosystem Health



Fish and Fisheries



Shellfish and Aquaculture

Future

- Commercial ag, Community Horticulture work will continue
- WSU/County support to hire part-time staff to support my work
- Faculty position replacement determination
- Enhance coordination with Washington Sea Grant